

ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE  
Draft MINUTES  
December 15, 2021

The Town of Orange Recycling Committee met in person at High Plains Community Center on Wednesday December 15, 2021. The Meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. Chair, Mitch Goldblatt presided.

**In Attendance:** Mitch Goldblatt, Mark Moyher, Patrick Legault, and Karen Della-Giustina. Chris Prokop participated via conference call.

**Public Input:** Lora Wu attended as the public.

**Minutes Approval:** Patrick Legault made a motion and Mark Moyher seconded to approve the minutes of November 17, 2021. The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Financial Update:** There was no change from the prior month, but an invoice for \$242.01 was recently submitted for three cases of Poly Wrap plastic bags we need for the Rack N Pac at the Transfer Station. There's a possibility that next year we might be able to shift the cost of these bags to Public Works if Public Works Director Bob Brinton can include it in his budget.

**ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE ACCOUNT**

12/15/2021

1-056-890-90-956-50

**2020**

**Balance Forward** **\$1,962.38**

**2021**

FastSigns	(\$54.94)	\$1,907.44
Affordable Solutions	(\$550.00)	\$1,357.44
Reimbursement – Rotary Club	\$550.00	\$1,907.44
Orange Country Fair Booth	(\$135.00)	\$1,772.44
Vent Plastic Bags	(\$211.84)	\$1,560.60
Town of Orange	\$1,800.00	\$3,360.60
Rob and Pat McCorkle	\$100.00	\$3,460.60
Ken Lenz and Marianne Miller	\$50.00	\$3,510.60
Affordable Solutions	(\$625.00)	\$2,885.60
Reimbursement – Rotary Club	\$625.00	\$3,510.60
Barker Specialty – Rulers	(\$445.00)	\$3,065.60

*Mitch Goldblatt*  
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ORANGE RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Tad – Sign Hanging	(\$65.00)	\$3,000.60
Country Fair Donuts	(\$237.00)	\$2,763.60

**Residential Recycling Rates:**

MONTH	2020	2021	DELTA
January	89.29	73.49	-17.7%
February	66.18	64.09	-3.2%
March	80.90	83.67	3.4%
April	84.97	79.70	-6.2%
May	80.87	76.55	-5.3%
June	86.13	85.11	-1.2%
July	89.38	79.41	-11.2%
August	72.26	77.61	7.4%
September	82.31	71.87	-12.7%
October	70.40	63.37	-10.0%
November	87.92	82.89	-5.7%
December	87.37		
YTD Total	890.61	837.76	-5.9%

**Simple Recycling**

**Textile Rates:**

<u>2020</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Paid</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Pounds</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Paid</u>
January				January	11,343	\$0.0575	\$652.22
February				February	8,004	\$0.0575	\$460.23
March				March	9,780	\$0.0575	\$562.35
April				April	12,941	\$0.0575	\$744.11
May				May	10,335	\$0.0575	\$594.26
June				June	9,608	\$0.0575	\$552.46
July				July	7,132	\$0.0575	\$410.09
August				August	4,991	\$0.0575	\$286.98
September	1,220	\$0.0575	\$70.15	September	172	\$0.0575	\$9.89
October	11,600	\$0.0575	\$667.00	October	652	\$0.0575	\$37.49
Nov	12,381	\$0.0575	\$711.91	Nov	575	\$0.0575	\$33.06

Dec	11,320	\$0.0575	\$650.90	Dec			
YTD Total	36,521	\$0.0575	\$2,099.96	YTD Total	76,025	\$0.0575	\$4,371.44

**Old Business:**

**Tour of Oak Ridge Recycling Plant-October 30, 2021:** Plastic Bags and Wrap items are no longer collected by the TREX Company throughout Connecticut as their programs have been discontinued at this current time. Therefore, it seems the facility is throwing them out as trash. We reached out to Shop Rite to see if there's an opportunity to combine our bags with theirs to make sure they get recycled instead of disposed. Glass Recycling is difficult since we currently don't separate the glass from other items we collect. Mitch Goldblatt spoke with Bob Brinton about having a separate container just for collecting glass and there is a possibility to go this route. Trying to keep the cardboard and paper from getting wet and soaked at the Transfer Station by erecting a structure designed to keep the precipitation off these items was discussed, but it's unknown if this is possible. Another alternative would be looking into different types of containers that allow you to slide the items through an opening that have a top, but this will need research into the cost options of having such a product.

**New Business:**

**Next Shredding Day-April 2, 2022:** Mitch Goldblatt recently spoke to Lori Vitagliano of the Regional Water Authority HazWaste Program in New Haven about the Town of Orange hosting a HazWaste Day in 2022. A motion was made by Karen Della-Giustina and seconded by Chris Prokop to have this event. It was carried unanimously. The next step is to see if it's possible to have it as early as April 2, 2022 in combination with the shredding day and mattress collection or wait until our fall event. This in part will depend on the budget and scheduling of the Regional Water Authority. Mitch Goldblatt will also probably have to seek Board of Selectmen approval, as well. The Orange Recycling Committee would provide assistance with directing the cars to the correct destination. It will be advertised as a town event, but if residents from neighboring towns come we would not turn them away. There was also a brief discussion to have the Recycling Committee think if there is a way to have some sort of Bicentennial theme regarding this day.

**Plastic Bags and Wrap Collection with Shop Rite:** Mitch Goldblatt and Mark Moyher recently met up with Harry Garafalo, from Shop Rite at the Transfer Station to discuss if we could partner up our plastic bags and wraps with Shop Rite to make sure they would get recycled instead of disposed as trash. Unfortunately, the Rack N Pac was temporarily closed since it ran out of the Poly Wrap bags used to collect the plastics. Mr. Garafalo said he needs to inspect the quality of plastic we are collecting to ensure it's clean enough for them. If the plastics are approved we would explore with Bob Brinton, Director of Public Works in Orange, about getting our plastic bags from the Transfer Station to Shop Rite in a proper and timely manner in order to be picked up from the store.

**Glass Separation:** Mitch Goldblatt spoke with Jennifer Heaton-Jones at Housatonic Resources Recovery Authority (HRRA) on glass recycling. Jennifer suggested working with Oak Ridge to see if we could make this happen. This would be our best option. If not, Mitch spoke with Strategic Materials, Inc (SMI) located in South Windsor, CT who is a glass recycling company about getting our glass to them. This would be a tougher challenge and could be costly as there are charges involved in the collecting and transporting from the Transfer Station to them. The Transfer Station would also need specific equipment to collect the glass. Therefore this option is available, but the preference is work with Oak Ridge as a first option. Mitch sent an email to 3 people at Oak Ridge about this earlier in the week, but so far, has not received a response.

**Next Scheduled Meeting:** Wednesday, January 19, 2022

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM after a motion by Mark Moyher, seconded by Karen Della-Giustina and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Moyher  
Secretary